

PCT

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2003P06791WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/008204	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22.07.2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25.07.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01R13/518, H01R13/627		
Applicant SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

- a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 6 sheets, as follows:
- ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
- ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
- b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s))

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (January 2004)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/008204

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1, 4-12 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 2, 3, 3a received by this Authority on 05.04.2005 with letter of 01.04.2005
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1-12 received by this Authority on 05.04.2005 with letter of 01.04.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/4-4/4 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/008204

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
	<p>1.</p> <p>Document D1 is regarded as the closest prior art in relation to the subject matter of claim 1. It discloses (the references in parentheses relate to this document) a plug-in connection device that can be connected to a counter plug-in connection device for electrically connecting electric modules (11), comprising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a housing (10), - at least one locking device (19) connected to the housing (10), for mechanically coupling the plug-in connection device to the counter plug-in connection device, - the locking device (19) being movable between a locking position and an unlocking position, and - the locking device (19) being integrally connected to the housing (10). <p>The subject matter of claim 1 thus differs from the known plug-in connection device in that the locking device comprises an unlocking element that, in the unlocking position, engages in a counter element at the housing, which is complementary to the unlocking element, so that</p>		

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
	<p>the locking device can be fixed in the unlocking position.</p> <p>The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).</p> <p>The problem to be solved by the present invention can be regarded as that of easily releasing the mechanical coupling between the plug and the socket.</p> <p>The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reason: no indication for this solution is provided by the prior art.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>Claims 2-11 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements regarding novelty and inventive step.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>Claim 12 describes a method for separating a plug-in connection device as per claim 1, which meets the requirements regarding novelty and inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and 33(3)).</p>